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EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT, KENT

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1968



EAST ASHFORD (KENT) RURAL DISTRICT

Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector for the Year, 1968 -----

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1968.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 11,970 which represents an increase of 150 over that of the previous year.

Live Births and Rate

The number of live-births was 176 (99 M. 77 F.) a decrease of 26 from that of the previous year and the crude birth rate was accordingly 14.7 which, after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution and allows comparison with other Districts, becomes 17.3; the rate for England and Wales being 16.9.

Stillbirths and Rate

One (F.) stillbirth was registered during the year and the corresponding rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths was 6.0 compared with that of 14.0 for England and Wales.

Infant Deaths and Mortality Rate

The number of infant deaths was 3 (2 M. 1 F.) and the infantile mortality rate was accordingly 17.0 and was slightly lower than that of 18.0 for England and Wales.

The causes of death were:-

Prematurity: Weighed 2-lbs. - 9 hours

Broncho-pneumonia: Wending Hoffman Disease - 7 months

Congenital Malformation of Heart - 2 days

The hard core of causes of Perinatal Mortality (i.e. stillbirths and deaths under one week of age) is Prematurity, Asphyxia and Atelectasis, Birth Injuries and Congenital Malformations and the most important maternal factor is Toxaemia of Pregnancy.

Maternal Deaths and Rate

This rate was again nil as there were no deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion.

Total Deaths and Rate

The number of deaths from all causes was 122 (69 M. 43 F.) and the crude death rate was accordingly 10.2 which, after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, as for births becomes 10.5 and was lower than that of 11.9 for England and Wales.

The chief group cause of deaths, as would naturally be expected, was Heart and Circulatory Diseases and Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System; of these there were 56.

Ischaemic heart disease (Coronary Thrombosis and Coronary Atheroma) was the cause of 22 of those deaths. The age groups were as follows:- 4 between 45 - 54; 3 between 55 - 64; 4 between 65 - 74; 11 over 75 years. The majority of the deaths were over 65 years, and these figures, although small, conform to the usual pattern that the majority of these deaths occur amongst the elderly and the aged which would seem to indicate that one of the causative factors is due to a degenerative process although the actual cause is still obscure, with particular reference to those who die in early life.

Cancer, as invariably in previous years, was the second highest cause of deaths - 33 in the following age-groups; 1 between 45 - 54; 7 between 55 - 64; 13 between 65 - 74 and 12 over 75 years. As Cancer can be treated successfully if not too advanced, it is reasonable to assume that the majority of those patients sought medical examinations too late.

Cancer of the Lung/Bronchus was the cause of 8 (5 M. 3 F.) of those deaths compared with 11 in the previous year, in the following age-groups; 2 between 55 - 64; 6 between 65 - 74 years.

Cancer of the Breast was the cause of 2 deaths in the following age-groups:- 1 between 65 - 74 and 1 over 75 years of age.

Amongst the other causes of death there was no exceptional mortality. There was no death due to Infectious Disease.

Infectious Diseases

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year:-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Infective Hepatitis	...	...	...	...	...	1

Tuberculosis

One new case of Respiratory Tuberculosis was notified - the patient being over 60 years of age.

Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968 came into force on the 1st October, 1968, and, as requested by the Minister of Health, copies of these new Regulations and also copies of Sections 47 to 49 of the Act of 1968 were sent to all medical practitioners in the area.

Under this new Act the following Infectious Diseases are now notifiable:-

Acute Encephalitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Acute Meningitis	Paratyphoid Fever
Acute Poliomyelitis	Plague
Anthrax	Relapsing Fever
Cholera	Scarlet Fever
Diphtheria	Smallpox
Dysentery	Tetanus
(amoebic or bacillary)	Tuberculosis
Infective Jaundice	Typhoid Fever
Leprosy	Typhus
Leptospirosis	Whooping Cough
Malaria	Yellow Fever
Measles	

The following diseases are now no longer notifiable:-

Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	Erysipelas
Acute Primary Pneumonia	Membranous Croup
Acute Rheumatism	Puerperal Pyrexia

Cases or suspected cases of Food Poisoning are still required to be notified.

In conclusion, I would state that the Public Health of the District was very satisfactory during the year, and I would take this opportunity of thanking you for your support of and interest in the work of the Department and the staff for their co-operation and efficient service.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Central Public Health Office,
14, Church Road,
Ashford, Kent.

Tel: No: Ashford 24411

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

FOR 1968

Area:- 51,389

Registrar-General's Estimate of:-

The Resident Population	...	...	...	11,970
<u>Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Books</u>	...	...	...	4,516
<u>Rateable Value:-</u>	...	...	...	332,716
<u>Sum Represented by a Penny Rate</u>	...	...	...	1,325

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

East Ashford Rural District is predominantly agricultural in character - there are few light industries. The Council has been progressive in building 100 pre-war and 657 post-war Traditional Houses and generally social conditions are very satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>		<u>East Ashford Rural District</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
1. <u>Live Births</u>	176	99	77	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	14.7 (Adjusted Rate) 17.3	16.9
(a) Legitimate	169	96	73			
(b) Illegitimate	7	3	4			
2. <u>Stillbirths</u>	1	-	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	-	14.0
(a) Legitimate	1	-	1			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
3. <u>Total live and stillbirths</u>	177	99	78			
4. <u>Deaths</u>	122	69	53	Death Rate per 1,000 resident population	10.2 (Adjusted Rate) 10.3	11.9
5. <u>Deaths from Pregnancy Childbirth, Abortion</u>	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	-	Not Available
6. <u>Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age</u>	3	2	1	Rate per 1,000 live births	17.01	18.0
(a) Legitimate	3	2	1	Rate per 1,000 live births (legitimate)	10.77	
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live births (illegitimate)	-	
7. <u>Perinatal Mortality (Stillbirths and deaths of infants under 1 week of age)</u>	2	1	1	Rate per 1,000 total births	11.3	25.0
(a) Legitimate	2	1	1			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
8. <u>Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births</u>					3.90%	

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year:-

Dysentery	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	6

CAUSES OF DEATH IN EAST ASHFORD RURAL
DISTRICT DURING 1963

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
ALL CAUSES	69	53
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	4	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	5	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms, Etc.	14	4
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasm	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1
Other Diseases of Blood, etc.	-	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	1	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	15	7
Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	6
Cerebrovascular Disease	7	11
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	3	2
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	7	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	2	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	3
Peptic Ulcer	-	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1
All Other Accidents	1	2



TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1968

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>				<u>Total cases on Register</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	34	13	8
1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

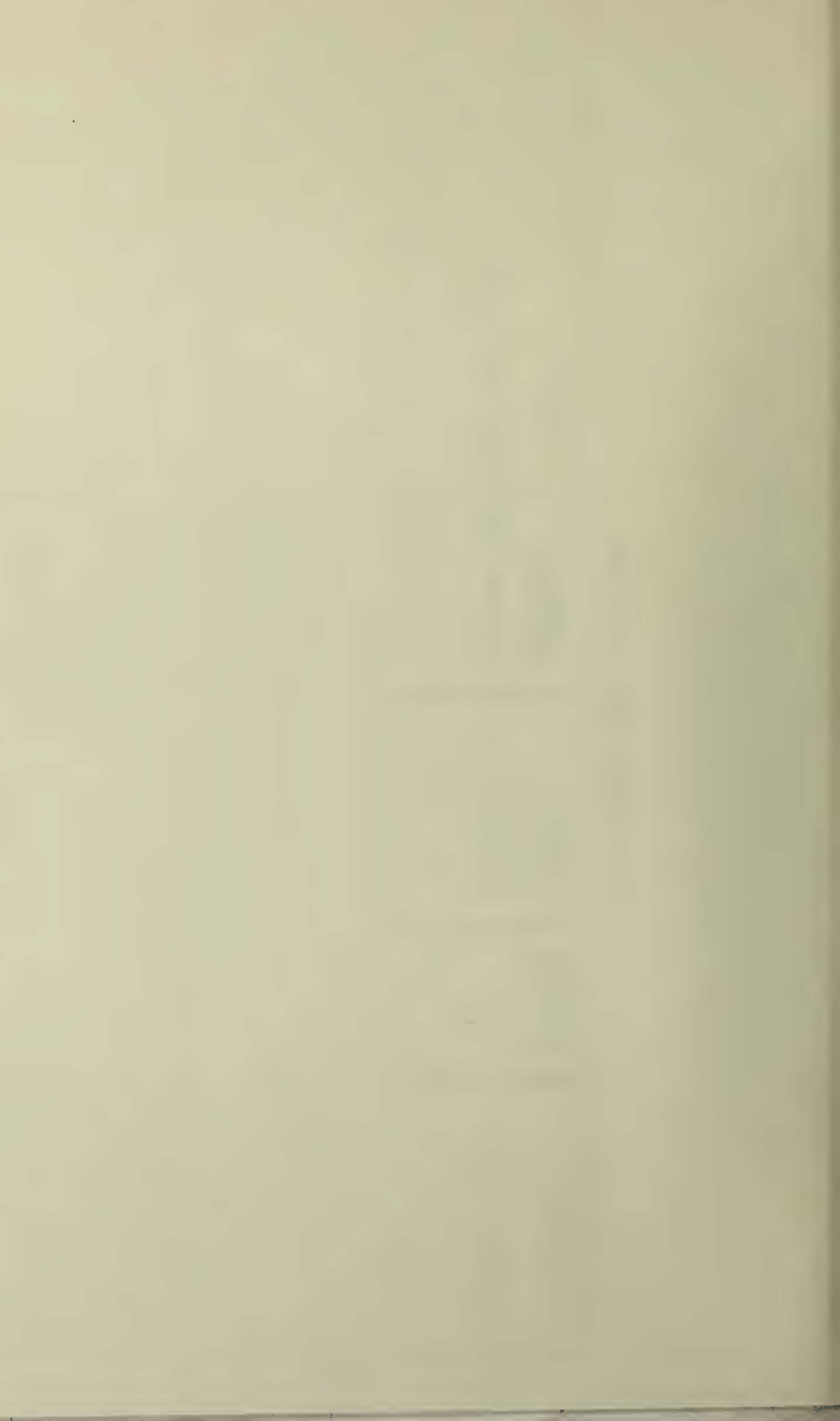
There were no deaths from Tuberculosis of a patient who had not been notified as suffering from this disease

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Year of Birth	Triple Antigen	Primary Diphtheria Tetanus	Small-pox	Tetanus	Measles	Polio-myelitis	Triple Antigen	Diphtheria Tetanus	Reinforcing Small-pox	Tetanus	Measles	Polio-myelitis
1968	41	1	-	-	3	38	-	-	-	-	-	-
1967	83	4	-	-	25	153	3	-	-	-	-	-
1966	6	1	-	-	30	13	44	20	-	-	-	-
1965	3	-	-	-	36	6	22	9	-	-	-	-
1964	-	-	-	-	35	3	5	5	-	-	-	5
1961 - 1963	4	-	-	2	109	-	19	83	1	5	-	122
1952 - 1960	1	-	-	13	1	-	-	6	-	11	-	5
TOTAL	138	6	103	15	239	213	93	123	1	16	-	132

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE - JULY 1968

FILMS TAKEN			Change from last Survey	ACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS			INACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS			CANCER OF LUNG		
Male	Female	Total		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
475	615	1,090	- 257	Nil	1	1	4	4	8	Nil	Nil	Nil



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the
year
1968

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
J. H. MEURICE, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
D. H. POOLE, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J. Board
Cert. Meat and Other Foods



Council Offices,
8, Elwick Road,
Ashford, Kent.

To the Chairman and Councillors of
The East Ashford Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting this my fifth Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department for the year ending 31st December, 1968. The number of Improvement Grants increased this year. Since grants for improvements were first started over 500 houses in the East Ashford area have benefited.

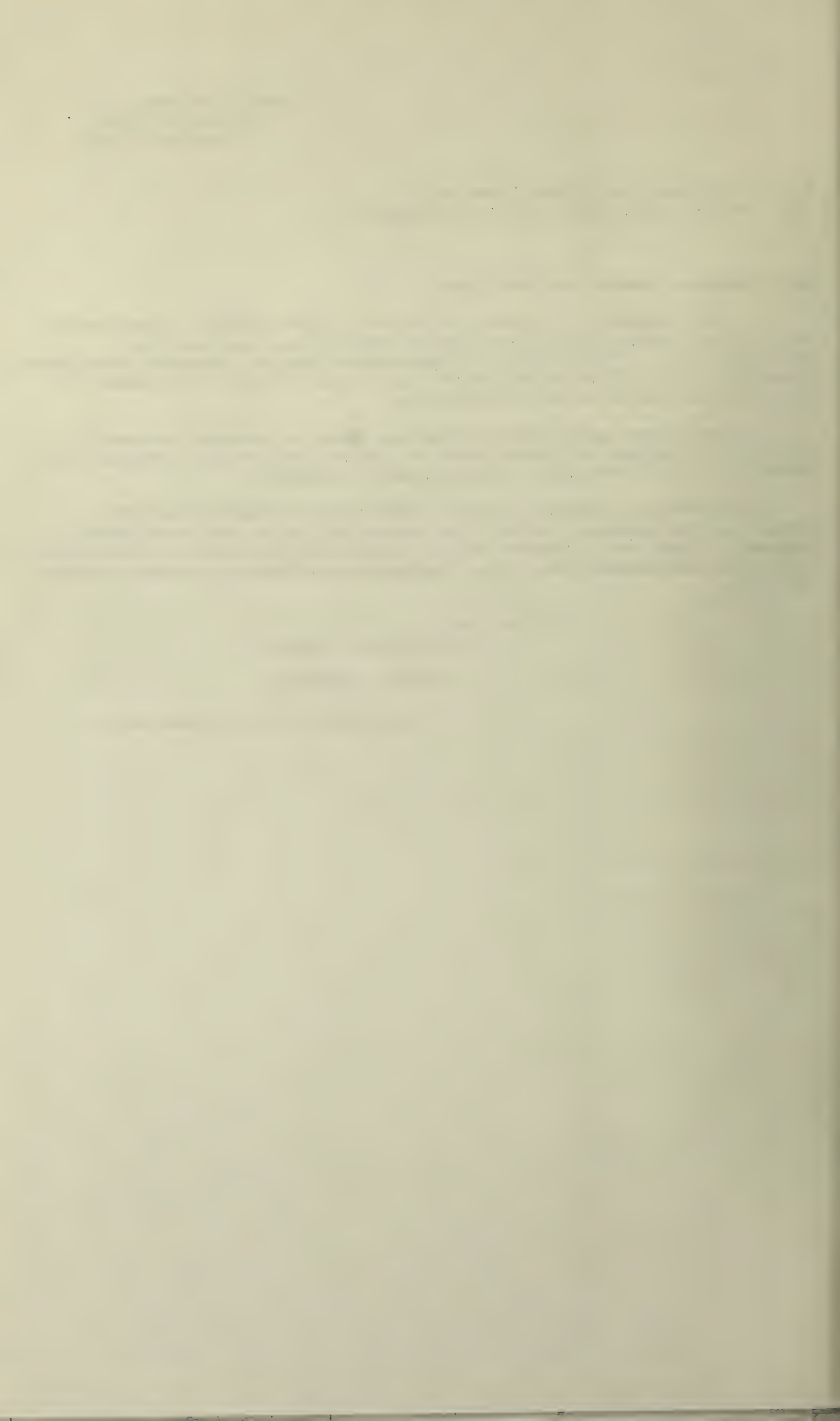
Progress was again made during the year on sewerage schemes. Although the scheme at Brook came to a halt, two smaller schemes were commenced, Old Wives Lees, Chilham, and Sevington.

Considerable benefit was felt with the introduction of the Council's own cesspool tanker, the period of delay was considerably reduced. The actual number emptied increased in spite of the saving made with the completion of the Brabourne and Smeeth sewerage scheme in 1967.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

JOHN H. MEURICE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.



WATER SUPPLY

The majority of the area receives its mains water supply from the Mid Kent Water Company, a small number (23) are, however, served by the Folkestone Water Company. Only the more isolated properties are without a mains water supply. Some 27 properties have a private piped supply. In the Parish of Ruckinge six properties were provided with a piped supply from the mains within the house, four of these were previously served by a stand pipe. None of the water supplies in the area is plumbo-solvent and no fluoride has been added to the water,

Examination of Water Supplies.

		No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Statutory Undertaking	Raw Treated	11	11	Nil
Private Sources Piped to Dwellings		1	1	Nil
Other Private Sources (Wells, etc.)		2	2	Nil

During the year it was necessary to draw the attention of the Mid Kent Water Company to the poor supply in the Sandyhurst Lane/Lenacre Street area of the district. The supply was frequently interrupted and the water on several occasions was grossly discoloured and dirty (Bacteriologically clean). Since that time there has been a considerable improvement.

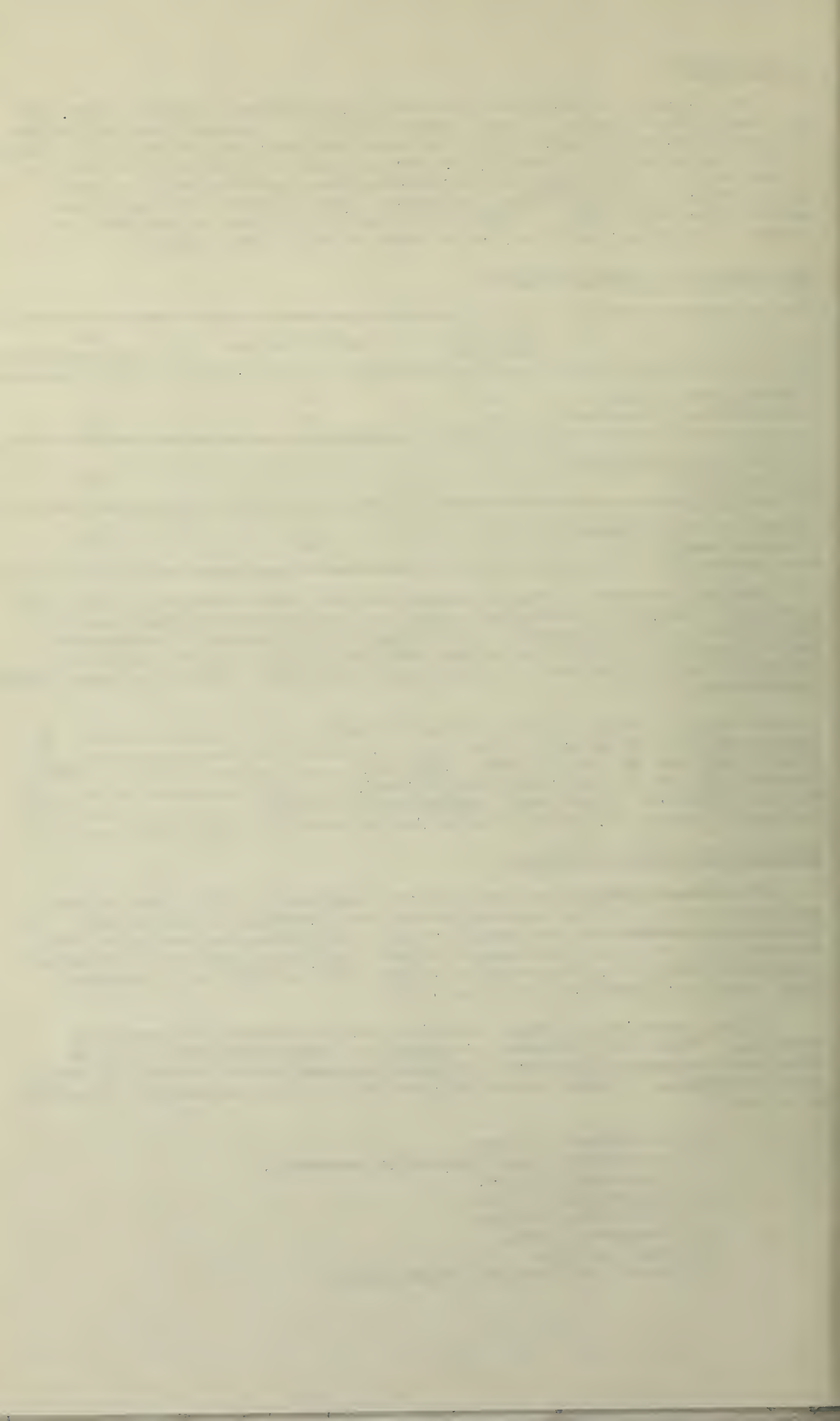
Houses supplied from private sources (piped)	27
Houses supplied from wells, etc.	60
Houses supplied by the Mid Kent Water Co.	4406
Houses supplied by the Folkestone Water Co.	23
Number of houses in the East Ashford Rural District	4516
Number of houses connected to main during year	97

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewage scheme for Brook which commenced in 1967, was halted during the year, the Contractor having had financial difficulties. It is hoped to recommence the scheme with a new Contractor early in 1969. However, the two other schemes, Chilham (Old Wives Lees) and Sevington commenced during the year and are making very satisfactory progress, they should be completed early in 1969.

Eight areas in the Rural District are now sewered or partially sewered. There are, however, a number of areas that still rely on cesspools or septic tanks for drainage but need to be sewered on Public Health grounds. These are as follows and are not necessarily in order of priority:

- (1) Aldington Village.
- (2) Mersham Village (partially sewered).
- (3) Ruckinge Village.
- (4) Bilsington Village.
- (5) Warehorne Village.
- (6) Boughton Aluph.
- (7) Part of Wye.
- (8) Ruckinge (Bromley Green Road).



The Council's Consulting Engineers are preparing a combined scheme for the villages of Aldington and Mersham. The combined scheme for the villages of Warehorne (East Ashford) and Kenardington (Tenterden R.D.) is also in the hands of the Consulting Engineers. The Bilsington and Ruckinge scheme prepared by the Council's Engineer and Surveyor is awaiting approval from the Ministry leaving only the areas of Boughton Aluph, part of Wye and Ruckinge (Bromley Green Road) to be dealt with as urgent cases. A scheme for the final part of Chilham is with the Ministry, this scheme has been put forward because it will be more economical to join in with a scheme now in progress in the adjoining area (Bridge-Elean R.D.).

Cesspools and Septic Tanks.

The Council provide for two free emptyings each year, these can be increased in certain circumstances and in cases of emergency. During the year the Council took delivery of a new 1500 gal. cesspool emptier. As a result very little delay has occurred with the clearance of cesspools, the first time for several years. A further tanker is on order and it is hoped to improve the service even more during the coming year.

During the year the number of cesspools cleared increased slightly (2145). This was mainly due to the extra emptyings that have been made, many of these extra emptyings have been made in the village of Brook as a result of the failure of the Contractor to complete the sewage scheme on time and to the original delay in commencing the scheme due to the economic situation.

Drainage.

Total number of houses	4516
Total number of houses connected to sewer	1620
Total number of houses not connected to sewer	2996
Number of houses with pail or chemical closets (Est.)	196
Number of houses with cesspool or septic tank (Est.)	2700

During the year 18 properties were converted from pail or chemical closets, but a proportion of new houses had to be provided with septic tank drainage (no sewer being available) thus increasing the number of houses estimated to be on cesspool or septic tank. It is hoped, however, that with the completion of the Brook scheme and the schemes for Sevington and part of Chilham, next year will show a definite decrease in the number of properties relying on this form of drainage.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADMINISTRATION.

Registered Premises.

There are now 55 premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 one more than last year. This total is made up as follows, last year's figures in brackets:

- (1) Retailers of Ice Cream 45 (44)
- (2) Preparation and manufacture of sausages and preserved foods 10 (10)

During the year inspections were made of all these premises. All the retailers of ice cream sell pre-packed from one or other of the large combines and it was not thought necessary to take any samples.

Food Premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

The total number of food premises subject to the above regulations is 104. These can be categorised as follows:



Type of Premises	No. of Premises	No. of premises complying with Reg.16	No. of premises subject to Reg.19	No. of premises complying with Reg.19
Licensed Premises only	26	26	26	26
Licensed Premises with Restaurant	7	7	7	7
Poultry Processing	2	2	2	2
Butchers	6	6	6	6
Fruit Shops	3	3	3	3
Cafes	8	8	8	8
Bakehouses	2	2	2	2
Confectioners	1	1	1	1
Canteens	2	2	2	2
Slaughterhouses	1	1	1	1
Grocers	44	44	44	44
Residential Homes	2	2	2	2
TOTAL	104	104	104	104

A total of 429 visits were made to all types of food premises during the year, as a result of these visits 23 informal notices were served (including verbal) and all the premises were improved as a result. The standard in food premises in the area continues to be generally satisfactory.

Two complaints were received from members of the public during the year; these were as follows:

- a) One complaint of a dirty milk bottle;
- b) One complaint of a piece of wire in a loaf of bread.

In each case the matter was investigated but it was not considered necessary to take legal proceedings.

Milk and Dairies.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959.

The number of registered distributors within the district is now 30 an increase of 5 over last years figure. The number of registered Dairies is still 3.

Meat Inspection.

Only one slaughterhouse exists within the district. During the year 164 hours overtime were worked in order to achieve one hundred per cent meat inspection. This was a decrease over last years figure. There was also a decrease (the first for some years) in the number of animals slaughtered as the following figures will show:

Carcases killed and inspected in 1965	2501
" " " " " 1966	3011
" " " " " 1967	3070
" " " " " 1968	3001



Details of Meat Inspection and Percentage of Meat Condemned

	Cattle excl Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed	356	4	28	1421	1192	Nil
No. inspected	356	4	28	1421	1192	Nil
All Diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	13	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	49	Nil	Nil	89	139	Nil
Percentage of No. inspected affected with disease other than T.B. or Cysticerci	13.76	Nil	Nil	6.26	12.75	Nil
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	51	Nil
Percentage of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.40	Nil	Nil	Nil	4.36	Nil
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Number of Slaughterhouses in Use.

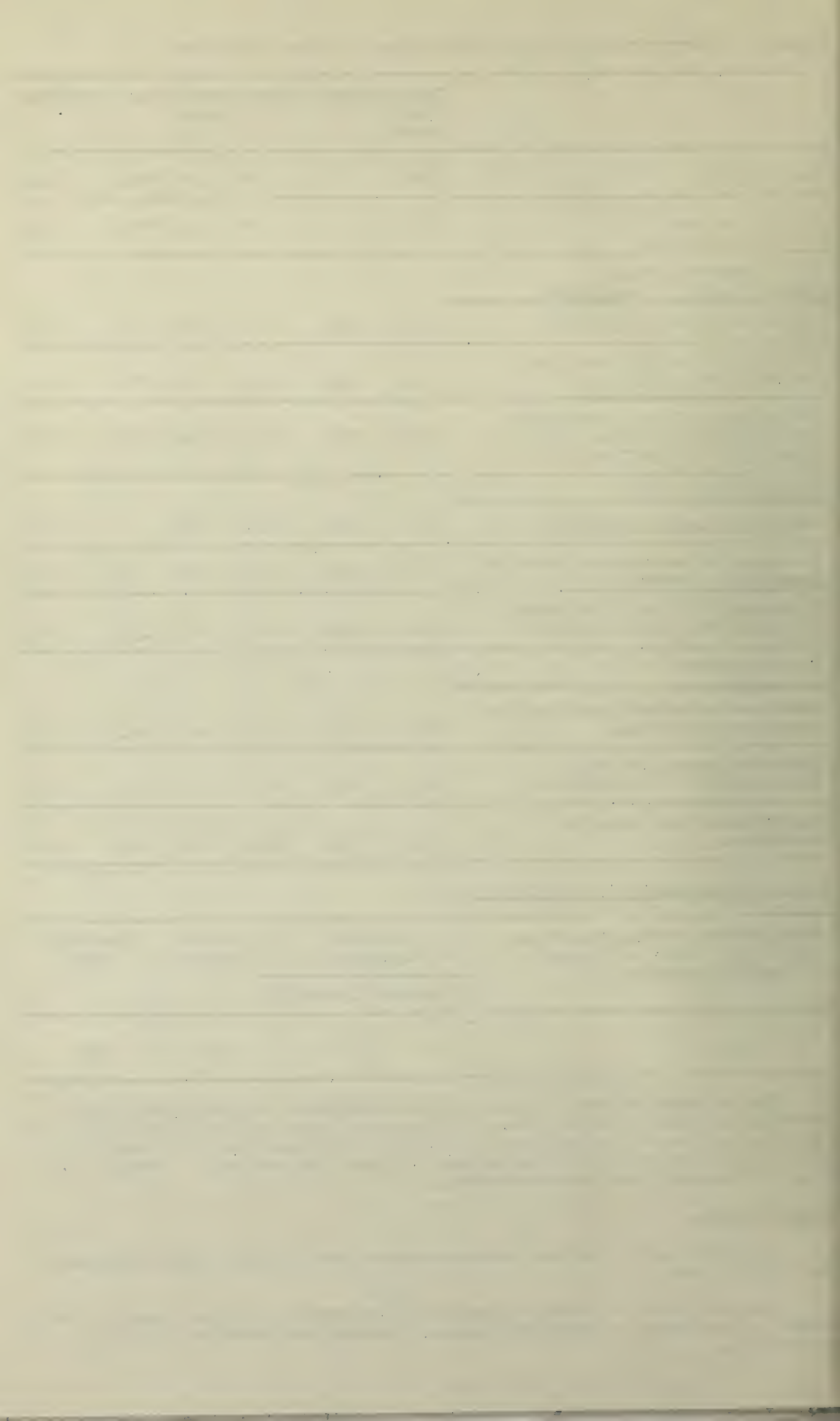
Slaughterhouses/Abattoir in operation owned or leased by Local Authority	Private Slaughterhouses		Bacon Factories	Knackers Yards
	Licensed	Operation		
Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil

The slaughterhouse is modern in construction and equipment and presents no real problems, most of the meat from this slaughterhouse is sold in the owner's own shops and is of a high quality. A total of 218 visits was made for the purpose of meat inspection. During the year 3089lbs. of meat were condemned.

Unsound Food.

Diseased meat from the slaughterhouse was the main food condemned during the year.

Unsound food is either disposed of by burying on the Council's tip under supervision or taken by Messrs. Eastern By-Products Ltd. for processing.



Poultry Inspection.

There are two processing premises within the district and the annual throughput is just over 200,000 head of which 17,500 are eviscerated, the rest merely bled prior to packing. The percentage of birds rejected was about 0.3%, the weight being about $\frac{1}{2}$ ton. During the year some 15 visits were made to these premises. Our relations with the operators are excellent, full co-operation being easily achieved.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

(1) Unfit Houses.

During the year only one unfit house was closed. The original unfit houses list has now been cleared. A number of houses on this list are still occupied although Demolition Orders or Closing Orders have been made. It is hoped to rehouse these persons in the near future so that the properties can be demolished or closed.

(2) Improvement Grants.

During the year the number of applications for grants rose from 31 to 33. No applications have been received from tenants requesting the Council's assistance under Section 19 of the Housing Act 1964 (Compulsory Improvements outside Improvement areas).

(a) Discretionary Grants:

Twenty-one applications for Discretionary Grants were received during the year compared with 19 last year. The cost of works involved was £26,979 and the amount of grant £6,727. The average grant per property was £320.

(b) Standard Grants:

Twelve applications for Standard Grants were received during the year (the same as last year). The amount of grant was £2,405, a slight increase on last year's figure. The average cost per property was £200.

(3) Inspections - Public Health Acts and Housing Acts.

No. of inspections of dwellings and repairs	64
No. of dwellings made fit	22
No. of inspections for the purposes of Sections 16/17	
Housing Act 1957 (Demolition and Closing Orders)	43

Improvement Grants and Standard Grants.

Total number of visits in connection with all improvement grants	214
--	-----

Public Health Acts.

No. of inspections re Caravans	294
" " " " Dust and Smoke Nuisances	41
" " " " Drainage and Cesspools	238
" " " " Water Supplies	132
" " " " Refuse Tips	273
" " " " Refuse Collection and Litter	225

(4) Housing.

At the end of the year there were 167 families on the Council's Housing List. No Council houses were built during the year due to Government restrictions. The number of private houses built was 96, 28 more than the previous year.



A. Houses Demolished.

Clearance areas Housing Act 1957	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	-	-	-
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	-	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Sec.43(2) Housing Act 1957	-	-	-
<u>NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS</u>			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec.16 or 17(1) Housing Act 1957	-	-	-

B. Unfit Houses Closed.

	Houses Closed	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(5) Under Sec.16(4),17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act 1957	1	-	-
(6) Under Sec.17(3) and 26 Housing Act 1957	-	-	-
(7) Parts of Buildings closed under Sec.18 Housing Act 1957	-	-	-

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(8) After informal action by Local Authority	22	-
(9) After formal action under:		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sec.9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	-	-
Under Sec.21 Housing Act 1957	-	-
Under Sec.24 Housing Act 1957	-	-
(10) Under Section 27 Housing Act 1957	-	-

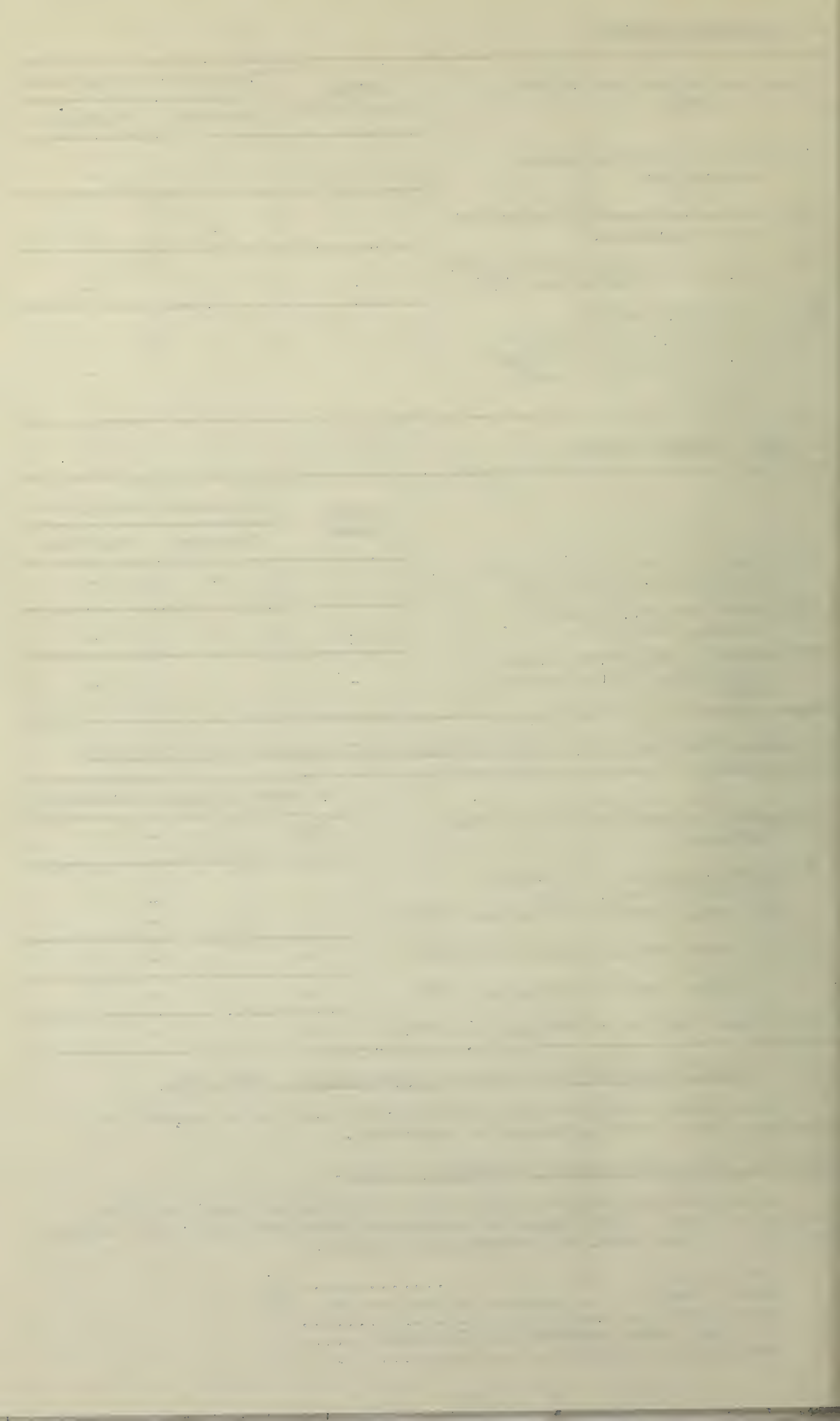
D & E. Unfit HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act 1957) etc.

There were no unfit houses in temporary use and no houses in clearance areas were purchased by Agreement.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

Once again all registered premises received at least one visit during the year. The number of registered premises rose to 61 during the year. This total is divided up as follows:

Offices	16
Retail Shops	35
Warehouses	1
Catering Establishments and Canteens	8
Fuel Storage Depots	1



A total of 227 persons is employed in these premises of which 145 are females and 82 males. During the year 61 general inspections were made and the total number of visits for all purposes was 121.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

(1) Collection:

The collection of household refuse is made on a weekly basis. Refuse is still collected from the kerbside except in the case of aged and/or infirmed persons when a back door collection is provided. With the economic situation as it is, there is no hope at present of providing other than a kerbside collection throughout the district although it might be possible in a year or so to convert to the paper sack system on a small scale.

During the year the Council's three refuse vehicles travelled over 30,000 miles and consumed in excess of 3,500 gallons of Diesel Oil. It is estimated that over 300,000 bins were cleared.

All the vehicles in service are of a modern rear loading compression type. Bulky items of refuse cannot, therefore, be collected on normal rounds. Because of this and to discourage indiscriminate tipping, the Council provides a free collection service for such items on request. This service is carried out on a Saturday morning as a further convenience to ratepayers.

(2) Disposal.

The Council at present control four refuse tips, only two of which are at present in full use. The whole of the refuse collected is disposed of by controlled tipping. The tips are available free of charge to tradespeople in the area. They are also available to the general ratepayer at all reasonable hours.

The maintenance of these refuse tips involves one man and a J.C.B.2 Digger on a full time basis and it is estimated that our tipping space will last a further 4 to 5 years.

(3) Staff.

The staff at present engaged on refuse collection consists of 5 Drivers and 4 Loaders, each of the loaders taking a turn in baling the paper salvage. One man is engaged full time on the refuse tips.

(4) Paper Salvage.

The Council continues to operate this rate saving scheme. Unfortunately not all the ratepayers bother and it is left to the regulars each year to maintain a reasonably steady tonnage as can be seen from these figures:

Year	Tonnage		Qtrs.	Value		
	Tons	Cwts		£	s.	d.
1964	182	10	1	1488	9	7
1965	161	16	1	1468	7	9
1966	174	-	-	1597	-	-
1967	163	4	-	1330	4	4
1968	169	12	1	1368	2	11

It had been hoped to see a rise in the price of paper this year but alas, it remains one of the very few items that did not go up in price.



Litter.

It would be foolish to pretend that the litter lout has ceased to exist. Their numbers do seem, however, to have diminished, if one can go by the improvement in the condition of the roadside verges, etc. during the past year. No doubt the Council's policy of free collection of bulky rubbish has a bearing on the improvement.

As far as possible, weekly collections are made from all litter bins in villages and on lay-bys. During the summer months, especially after Bank Holidays, extra collections are made.

Abandoned Vehicles.

During the year only two cases of abandoned vehicles were investigated. In both cases they were removed by a Contractor on the Council's behalf.

CARAVAN SITES.

There are no multiple licensed caravan sites within the area. Individual licences have been issued in 10 cases for single caravans.

HOP PICKERS CAMPS.

Only two small camps are still in use for hop pickers. It is estimated that about 15 persons used the camps during the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963.

Only four licences were issued during the year. Very few problems arise, the owners being most co-operative.

RODENT CONTROL.

Over the past year there was again a small decrease in the number of complaints, 138 compared with 150 last year. The number of surveys of properties carried out where no complaint had been received increased from 183 to 200. Ten visits were made to agricultural properties.

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1) Number of Properties in District	4873	680
2a) Total number of properties (including nearby properties) inspected following notification	220	-
b) Number infested by i) Rats	190	-
ii) Mice	10	-
3) Total number of properties inspected for Rats/Mice for reasons other than notification i) Rats	200	10
ii) Mice	155	10
	1	-
4) Were any sewers infested by rats during the year	No	-

It would be foolish to pretend that the litter found has ceased to exist. It is, however, to have diminished, it can be no longer the improvement in the condition of the roadside verges, etc. No doubt the Council's policy of free collection during the past year. No doubt the Council has a bearing on the improvement.

As far as possible, weekly collections were made from all litter bins in villages and on highways. During the summer months, especially after Bank Holidays, extra collections were made.

During the year only two cases of abandoned vehicles were investigated. In both cases they were removed by a Contractor at the Council's expense. CARAVAN STOPS

There are no multiple licensed caravans at present in the area. Individual licenses have been issued in 19 cases for single caravans.

HOP PICKERS CAMPS
Only two small camps are still in use for hop pickers. It is estimated that about 15 persons used the camps during the year.

FINAL BOARDING REQUIREMENTS FOR 1952
Only four licenses were issued during the year. Very few problems arise, the owners being most co-operative.

ROCKET CONTROL
Over the past year there was again a small decrease in the number of complaints, 158 compared with 160 last year. The number of surveys of properties carried out where no complaints had been received increased from 153 to 200. The visits were made to agricultural properties.

Type of Property		
Non-Agricultural		
1) Number of properties in District	4875	
2a) Total number of properties (including holiday properties)	330	
2b) Number inspected following notification	190	
3) Total number of properties inspected	10	
for Rate/Nice for persons other than notification	200	10
1) Rate	152	10
11) Nice	1	-
4) Were any owners notified by rate during the year	No	-

FACTORIES ACT 1961.

(1) Inspections.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of:		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	Nil	-	-	-
2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authority	41	62	1	-
3) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authority	Nil	-	-	-

(2) Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars (1)	No.of cases in which defects were found				3- Prosec- ution (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness	Nil	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	Nil	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	Nil	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	Nil	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	Nil	-	-	-	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable and defective	3	3	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	-	-	-

Outworkers.

Two visits were made to outworkers homes during the year.

JOHN H. MEURICE,

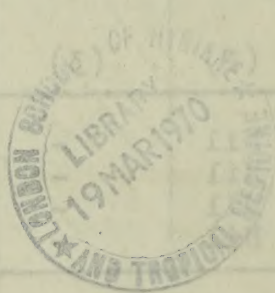
Chief Public Health Inspector.

(1) Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of:	
		Inspections	Written Certificates
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are to be enforced by Local Authority	Nil	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	41	62	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	Nil	-	-

(2) Cases in which factories were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found		Provision
	Found	Referred	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Part of cleanliness	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-
(b) Unstable and defective	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	-



Outworkers

Two visits were made to outworkers homes during the year.

JOHN R. MURPHY

Chief Public Health Inspector